

February 21, 2018

Dear Friends of Second Church,
With the news of Billy Graham's death at the age of 99, the consideration of his impact and legacy are just beginning.

But I loved this detail from a column this morning in the Statesville (NC) *Record and Landmark* by Rev. Rob Lee, a young Baptist pastor who has also served UCC churches in North Carolina:

"A decade ago, when I was being confirmed at Broad Street United Methodist Church, we were on retreat in Montreat and I had the opportunity to sit in Billy Graham's office chair. I felt miniscule as a 13 year old wannabe preacher. But his assistant said to me, 'You would be surprised; he feels small before God too.'"

(Rob Lee also confesses that he took a paper clip as a memento, for which he dutifully apologizes.)



It's a lovely appreciation of Graham from someone who ultimately found himself in a different place on the theological spectrum.

But it also has me thinking about how faith *feels*, and appreciating how it doesn't just make us feel one particular way.

Churches talk most easily about how that faith builds us up.

After a tough week immersed in all the things we do, we're reminded that God loves us, that God sees our effort even when others may not, that who we are in God's eyes is different and deeper than what the eyes of the world seem to focus on. We need that Good News.

By contrast, we seem to find it harder to name the good news in those moments when our faith makes us feel small. When we encounter life's holiest moments, so often words fail, even for the most eloquent of us. The most accomplished feel like rank beginners.

This doesn't go away as we continue to learn about and to practice our faith. (As Billy Graham's assistant told young Rob Lee: "You would be surprised; he feels small before God too.")

In fact, part of the logic of Lent is about seeking out the reminder of our smallness, the inescapability of our limitations, and the partiality of our understanding.

Our traditions teach that this is important for us, reminding us that, first, there is a God...and second, that it's not us. Third, it reminds us that the God who sees more than we see and knows more than we know is not limited by the world as we grasp it — that more is happening than *we* know, and more is possible than *we* see.

Often, it's in our smallness that we are invited to find the God who is bigger than this moment, bigger than the way things are, and more powerful even than the powers that be.

And yet, for all that, God loves us utterly and wants to surge into and through our lives, working with us to shape the world into what it was always meant to be and might just yet become.

It is an invitation to see our own smallness. But really, it is an invitation to open ourselves to the grandeur of the love that sustains us all.

See you in church,

Max

If you would like to hear past Sermons you can find them on our website: 2cc.org

Join us for Bible Study tonight at 7:30
& Prayer Group tomorrow at 11:00 a.m.

It's combined choir Sunday this week!



Coffee Hour Hosts Needed:

Please email Stacey Brown
with a date that you are available to
help out. Thank you!

Join us for our 16th Annual Valentine Gala
Benefitting Heart Care International
Saturday, February 24, 2018

All You Need is Love

Gathering Reception at 6:00 p.m.

- Concert features Love Songs from the 60's, 70's & 80's sung by our Men's Chorus & directed by Alexander Constantine
- Special Guest Stars
- Concert is complimentary for Ladies & \$50 for Gentlemen (to be paid at the door)
- Gourmet Dinner before the concert & dessert reception to follow

RSVP to Gloria@2cc.org

In case of a major snowstorm on Saturday the concert & a luncheon will take place after the 10:30 service on Sunday, February 25

Details can be found at 2cc.org

[Click here to RSVP for Valentine Gala](#)

Women's Fellowship Cos Cob Crawl

Tuesday, March 13, 2018 starting at 10:00 a.m.

Lorca
coffee bar

During this outing we will visit each of the shops displayed here together as a group and "crawl" from one to the other through the morning.

EST. 2004
FLEISHERS
CRAFT BUTCHERY

Fairfield
Greenwich
Cheese
COMPANY


THE DRAWING ROOM

FJORD
FISH MARKET

The shops are looking forward to having us and they are excited to share their wealth of knowledge! We will have time to browse and each shop is willing to hold our purchases for later pick up.

COAST
GLOBAL SEAFOOD

We will have lunch at Coast Global Seafood which offers a 3 course prix fixe lunch for \$25

Please meet at 9:50 a.m. in the parking lot behind the shops or in case of rain, we can meet in the atrium by CVS.

Please contact: Leah Marmon for reservations:
lmarmor4@aol.com

**Have you been curious about the quaint shops along the strip in Cos Cob?
Now's your chance to see what they're all about!**

We will "crawl" our way into the butchery, a fish market and a cheese shop - each specializing in what they offer. They will share their wealth of knowledge with us! Need a caffeine fix? Lorca Coffee Bar has a fine selection of coffees and baked goods as well! For art and craft lovers, the Drawing Room is nearby!

We will enjoy lunch at Coast Seafood Restaurant & Bar, just across the street in the Mill Pond Shopping Center, for a delicious 3-course prix fixe lunch for \$25.

Click here to RSVP & reserve your spot
(limited to 20 participants)

Men's Fellowship Dinner

SAVE THE DATE...

THURSDAY, MARCH 22

6:30 p.m.

Details to follow...

Women's Fellowship Scholarship Program for Graduating High School Seniors

The Women's Fellowship of Second Church has established a Scholarship Program to honor and acknowledge the young people who have been involved in the life of the church.

High school graduating seniors who will be attending college in the fall of 2018 are encouraged to apply. Contact Gloria in the church office at 203.869.9311 or email womensfellowship@2cc.org,

All applications due by March 30, 2018



[Click here to download 2018 scholarship application](#)

Sign Up for
Vacation Bible
School (VBS)
June 25-29

VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL
AT SECOND CHURCH
JUNE 25-29, 2018

AGES 4-5TH GRADE
9:00 A.M. TO
NOON DAILY



MORE INFORMATION & SIGNUP AT [2CC.ORG](http://2cc.org)

DIRECTOR OF YOUTH MINISTRY: JESSICA@2CC.ORG

[Click here](#) to find
out more!

Do you "Like" us?



Are you following us on social media? No? You're missing out on a lot of inspiration & fun!

If you take pictures during the service(s) or on church grounds at any of our events please be sure to share the love on social media by tagging [@2ccGreenwich](#) on [Facebook](#), [Twitter](#) & [Instagram](#)

Around Town...



February is Teen Dating Violence Awareness Month

Community Partners:



You're invited to attend...

Looking In Theatre

An Interactive Exploration of Teen Relationships

Tuesday, February 27, 6:30 – 8:30 pm
YWCA Greenwich • 259 East Putnam Ave • Greenwich

Teen actors will perform dramatic scenes to explore:

- healthy vs. unhealthy relationships
- boundaries
- social media
- and other topics teens face in their relationships

Our goal is to present realistic situations that young people may find themselves in.

For high school and college youth, parents, and service providers who specialize in young adult issues.

This event is Free / pizza and refreshments will be served

Reserve your spot at
www.ywcagreenwich.org/lookingintheatre

For more information, contact Joan Mockler at 203-869-6501, ext 104 or j.mockler@ywcagreenwich.org

Looking In Theatre is a program of the Greater Hartford Academy of Arts and the Capitol Region Educational Council and is recipient of the 2017 Katherine Hepburn Award given by the Connecticut Commission on Human Rights and Opportunities.



For more information & reservations, [click here](#)